

Granite City  
**Press Record**

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1996

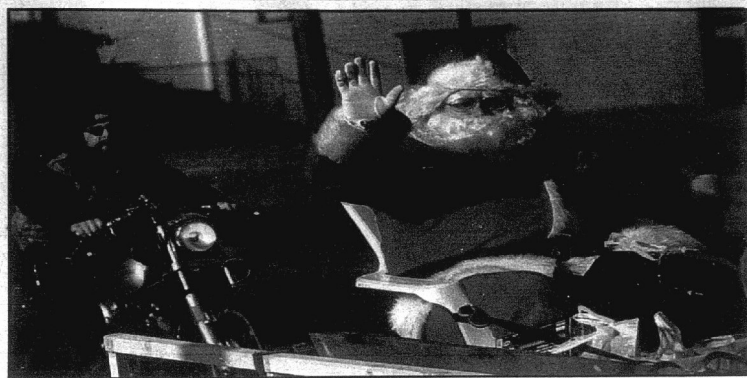
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## NEWS

New 911 equipment for the SIUE Police Department will have to wait, Madison County Board members have decided. **Page 3A**

## PEOPLE

Roxana School District residents hope to force a public vote on a \$1.2 million bond issue. **Page 6A**



(Staff photos by JOHN FRESSE)



**Benefit ride** — Above, Santa Claus (Dave Tibbitts) waves from a Harley-towed trailer on his way from the Free Spirits Motorcycle Club clubhouse to Phoenix Crisis Center with a load of toys and food to help out over the holidays. At left, James "Big Al" Brown waves Santa towards the women's shelter with some of the bounty collected by the motorcyclists participating in the toy ride organized by the Free Spirits Motorcycle Club in Granite City. Other clubs taking part were the Dream Weavers, from Alton, the Eagles, from Granite City, and the Road Saints and Saddle Tramps, from St. Louis and other area cyclists. More photos on Page 5A.

# Serious crime shows decline

## Robberies drop 16 percent

The number of serious crimes in Madison County appears to be on a healthy decline, while crimes in surrounding counties increased. Statistics recently released by the Illinois State Police revealed crime statewide was down during the first six months of this year compared to the same period in 1995.

The report compared eight categories of crime — murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault and battery, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson — and indicated a decline in six of the categories statewide. Robbery saw the biggest decline of 16 percent, followed by a 6.8 percent decline in aggravated assault and battery, a 5.3 percent decline in auto

theft and a 3.5 percent decline in criminal sexual assault. Madison County reported 5,286 serious crimes in the first six months of this year, down 16.8 percent from the 6,355 crimes reported during the same period in 1995. Crimes in surrounding counties rose slightly. Jersey County experienced a 9.6 percent increase, from 282 offenses in 1995 to 309 this year. Calhoun County reported a 3.8 percent increase this year, from 23 crimes up

(See CRIME, Page 10A)

Madison County Crime Statistics			
	1995	1996	
Aggravated Assault, Battery	419	315	
Arrests	225	194	
Burglary	1275	1092	
Arrests	189	128	
Theft	4083	3339	
Arrests	733	622	
Total Crime	6355	5286	

Graphic by M. Cook

# Two to get SIUE awards

Professor John Farley and Eugene Verdu, director of Programs and Services for Older Persons at Belleville Area College, will receive the 1997 SIUE Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Awards next month. The annual program commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King will be held at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 15 in the Meridian Ballroom at University Center on the campus of Southern Illinois

University at Edwardsville. Farley, professor of sociology at SIUE, will receive the University Humanitarian Award. "Underlying all of Farley's professional activities is a profound commitment to social equality," said Hugh Barlow, chairman of the SIUE Department of Sociology and Social Work. "In his scholarly work, he has authored

(See AWARDS, Page 6A)

## Madison approves lease

# Bridge's future bright

By Bob Slate  
Staff writer

Fifteen years ago, Hollywood director John Carpenter brought a production crew to this area and used the old Chain of Rocks Bridge to shoot the final scenes of "Escape From New York," an action flick starring Kurt Russell. Since that time, the one mile-plus-68 feet span across the Mississippi River has had little use, except as an informal (and illegal) gathering place for teens with nothing better to do.

That will apparently all change in the next couple of years.

At a special meeting Monday night, the Madison City Council authorized Mayor John Bellico to enter into a lease agreement with Gateway Trailnet for the use of the 5,349-foot truss bridge, which is owned by the city.

Under the terms of the lease, Gateway Trailnet, a not-for-profit corporation, will pay the city \$1 annually and make all necessary

repairs and maintenance to provide a pedestrian and bicycle crossover open to the public.

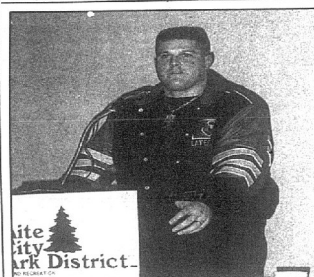
The lease is for a 20-year period, with Gateway Trailnet holding an option to extend the lease for 20 more years.

Madison City Attorney Casper Nighoghossian said it will cost Gateway Trailnet about \$3.5 million to renovate the structure, which could be open to the public in a couple of years.

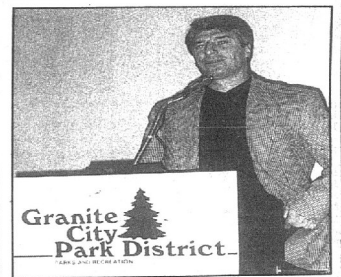
Once open, the bridge would be the largest public pedestrian recreational crossover in the world.

So far about \$500,000 has been promised from both public and private sources to fund the renovation project. That figure includes a \$200,000 grant to the city of Madison from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, about \$30,000 in other grants from both Missouri and Illinois, and \$250,000 in private donations.

Lou Mavros, project manager for Trailnet, (See BRIDGE, Page 6A)



**Motivational** — St. Louis Rams tight end Aaron Laing, left, and retired soccer goalkeeper Slobodan Ilievski were among the speakers at the 35th annual awards banquet of the Granite City Park District. Story, more photos on Page 2A.



(Staff photos by BOB SLATE)

## In the Press-Record

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**5 FULLER'S FORECAST**

John Fuller, Meteorologist, KSDK NewsChannel 5

**WEATHER DEFINITIONS - FREEZING RAIN**

Rain falls onto a surface with a temperature below freezing. This causes it to freeze to surfaces, such as trees, cars and roads forming a glaze of ice.

## Salute

Dave Polivick is a busy man. Polivick, director of parks and recreation for the Granite City Park District, is responsible for oversight of the day-to-day operations of Wilson Park, Worthen Park, Barry Loman Park, Randall Robertson Park and a host of other park district grounds, as well as coordinating the park's athletic programs, trips and other activities. Granite City has been recognized for its outstanding parks. Polivick is currently working on a number of programs that will provide corporations and individuals opportunities to sponsor park district programs. Anyone interested in sponsoring a program, project or event should call 677-3559.



Dave Polivick

# Commissioners get pay raises

Three Madison County residents who are responsible for sorting out excuses used to avoid jury duty were recently granted a raise by the County Board.

The stipend for the Jury Commission, which meets once a month, was raised last week to \$5,000 per year from the old stipend of \$3,374 at the request of Chief Circuit Judge Nicholas Byron.

"These people are certainly deserving of adequate compensation," Byron said. "They oversee the jury draw process which is vital to the function of

the courts." The members of the Jury Commission are William J. Harrison, D-Granite City; James F. Chapman, D-Collinsville; and Phyllis D. Walker, a Republican newcomer. They are appointed by the county's nine circuit judges. The only full-time employee for the commission is Jo Ann Dillman, a clerk who receives an annual salary of \$26,332. Chapman said the commission is responsible for sending out thousands of questionnaires and jury summonses each

(See HIKES, Page 9A)

# Park honors athletes, volunteers

By Bob Slate  
Staff writer

The Granite City Park District honored its athletes and volunteers at a dinner Dec. 10. St. Louis Rams tight end and fullback Aaron Laing, Rams rookie center Mike Gruttsdauria, popular professional soccer goalkeeper Slobodan Ilievski and Christy Reis and Stacie Fusco of the Rams cheerleading squad were on hand as the park district recognized its winning teams and volunteers at its 36th annual awards banquet at the Granite City Township Hall.

"Be thankful God has given you the health and ability (to play)," Laing told the crowd of about 500 attending.

"We congratulate all of the young athletes and their coaches and managers here tonight," park district Director Dave Polivick said.

Park board President Ron Mott announced the recipients of special service awards for the district and recognized volunteers and contributors to the park's programs.

Rob and Dawn Steen, owners of the Pontoon Beach Dairy Queen, received the park's "Appreciation Award," the highest honor bestowed by the park district each year.

The Steens sponsor a baseball team, sponsor the tee-ball league and sponsor the youth basketball program for third through sixth grades.

Honored with service awards for volunteering were Kyle White, Mike Sparks, Nancy Miller, Ron Parente, Debbie Reeves, Mike Newman and the Granite City Press-Record/Journal.

Also honored were Dr. Mark Eavenson, his wife, Laura, and daughter, Ashley, for a donation of more than \$8,500 for materials to build new dugouts on Diamond #1 and purchase gymnastics and other equipment; Debbie and Mark Germann for a donation of \$5,000 for materials to build new dugouts at George Sykes Field; and "Friends of Granite City Baseball," a group that donated \$1,100 for new sod at Diamond #1.

Athletic teams receiving trophies for softball were: Ponytail Atom division — Thunder (first place and playoff champs); Curly's Corner Market (second place); Angels and Little Giants (third place); Ponytail Bantam division — Wildcats (first place and playoff champs); MHC Hawks (second place); and White Sox (third place). Ponytail Midget division — Granite City Steel Credit Union (first place and playoff champs); and Mech-Comm Inc. (second place).



Debbie Reeves, left, a long-time softball player and manager at the park, receives a service award from Dave Polivick, center. At right is Reeves' husband Ron.

Ponytail Juvenile division — Lions Club (first place and playoff champs).

Trophy winners for baseball included:

Atom I division — Cardinals (first place and playoff champs); and Peterson Chevy/Buick (second place).

Atom II division — Patterson Tire Tigers (first place); and Gram Slammers (third place).

Bantam I division — Nebraska Hornets (first place and playoff champs); and Eagles (second place).

Bantam II division — DQ Menaces (first place and playoff

champs); VFW Post 1300 (second place) and Bobcats (third place).

Midget I division — A's (first place and playoff champs); and Blue Jays (second place).

Midget II division — GC Steel Credit Union (first place and playoff champs); and Blue Jays (second place).

Juvenile I division — Elks Blue (first place and playoff champs); and R&K Plumbing White Sox (second place).

Juvenile II division — VFW Post 1300 (first place and playoff champs); and Colts (second place).

Tennis trophies were presented to:

12 and under singles — T.J.

Harrington (first place) and Paul Rotter (second place).

16 and under singles — Andrew Balcer (first place) and Chris Burdge (second place).

18 and under singles — Chris Carpenter (first place) and Buddy Prazma (second place).

Girls 16 and under singles — Melissa Smith (first place) and Michelle Montgomery (second place).

18 and under doubles — Derek Webb and Chris Carpenter (first place) and Buddy Prazma and Shawn Thomas (second place).

Men's doubles — Chris Mitch

(See AWARDS, Page 9A)



Mike Sparks, left, long-time manager of a youth baseball team, receives a service award from Dave Polivick, director of the Granite City Park District.



Nancy Miller, left, a long-time softball player and manager, received a service award from Polivick. At right is Miller's husband, Joe.



Ron Parente, right, received a service award from Polivick. In addition to his participation as a softball player and manager, Parente is a park commissioner. At left is Parente's wife Kim.

## Bids sought for airport billboard

The St. Clair County Public Building Commission is seeking bids for the construction of a billboard that initially will advertise the planned opening of the MidAmerica Airport in 1997.

The County wants the billboard constructed on airport property on the south side of Interstate 64 just west of the Illinois Route 4 interchange. After the opening, expected in October 1997, the billboard would advertise other features of the new airport, such as

commercial carriers serving the facility. Work on the billboard is expected to be completed by spring.

Interested bidders should contact program managers, O'Connor & Partners, Inc. at 236-2610.

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By Bob Slate  
Staff writer

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# Students collect food for needy

Two student organizations at Belleville Area College's Granite City Campus recently collected food for those in need during the holidays.

The Black Affairs Council gave its food to the Women's Progressive Organization of Venice, which distributed the goods to needy families. Alpha Kappa Rho, the GOC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two-Year College, donated its canned goods to the Madison County AIDS Project (MADCAP).



(BAC photo by LINDA GASS BURGESS)  
Loading bags of food for delivery are, from left, Venatta Adams, secretary, Venice mayor's office; freshman Ada Walker of Madison, a PTK member and a MADCAP volunteer; Linda Barnes, president, Alpha Kappa Rho; Jan Zuke, GCC librarian and Alpha Kappa Rho faculty adviser; and Shirley Hall, transition specialist, Minority Transfer Center.

# County tables 911 purchase

New 911 equipment for the SIUE Police Department will have to wait until some Madison County Board members get a better explanation of why it is needed.

The Emergency Telephone System (ETS) Board had asked the County Board to authorize the purchase of new equipment at a cost of \$100,982. The equipment would provide a place to answer and transfer 911 emergency calls — called a Public Service Answering Point — at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

The university currently answers 911 calls at its dispatch center but is unable to transfer calls. However, several County Board members said after a regular meeting Wednesday that they questioned the necessity of the new equipment when the ETS Board is discussing the possibility of consolidating answering points with other cities to save money.

There are currently 16 places throughout the county that answer 911 calls, but some officials say fewer answering points are needed.

County Board member Harold Byers, D-Highland, who chairs the Central Services Committee, tabled the resolution to approve the 911 equipment.

"Several board members questioned whether we should be consolidating or expanding at this point," Byers said.

David Whipple, 911 coordinator, was scheduled to speak with the Central Services Committee Monday regarding the possibility of consolidating 911 answering points.

The ETS Board already has sought bids from consultants who would study the feasibility of consolidation, but the board recently decided not to follow through with that strategy.

The new equipment would also cost thousands of dollars per year to maintain.

— From The Telegraph

Several board members questioned whether we should be consolidating or expanding at this point.

— Harold Byers  
Board member

# Two facing drug, weapons charges

By Bob Slate  
Staff writer

Two Granite City men were charged Monday with possession of a controlled substance with the intent to deliver it. Jeffrey L. Ruckel, 34, of the 2100 block of East 24th Street, and Alfred "Kerry" Nolen, 31, of the same address, were also charged with unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon and defacing identification numbers on a firearm.

Bond on the felony warrants was set at \$100,000 each. The charges stem from a search warrant executed by police at 2:15 p.m. Friday at the East Granite home of the

two men. Police seized a quantity of white powder, alleged methamphetamine; marijuana; a 22-caliber handgun with its serial number scratched off; and a pill bottle containing 76

green and yellow capsules and two orange tablets, according to a police report.

Ruckel was also charged Monday with an unrelated felony count of aggravated battery.

He is alleged to have struck

a 29-year-old Granite City man in the face with a handgun at 1:45 a.m. Friday. Bond on that warrant is \$30,000.

Ruckel is the boyfriend of Mary Reynolds, the Granite City woman who allegedly stabbed her 2-year-old daughter in the head with a kitchen knife in October, police said.

Ruckel had \$423 cash in his pocket at the time of his arrest, according to a police report.

Ruehsenhausen said both Ruckel and Nolen are currently on parole. They were previously convicted on drug possession, armed robbery and aggravated battery charges, police said.

# Dialogue series to resume Jan. 22

The Gerontology Program, the School of Education and the Office of Continuing Education at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville are sponsoring Dialogue with Senior Citizens for the spring semester.

The Dialogue series is a weekly educational and cultural enrichment program for older adults scheduled Wednesdays in the Mississippi-Illinois Room of the University Center from 1 to 3 p.m.

Upcoming Dialogue topics and speakers include:

— The Dentist's Role in Restoring Head and Neck Cancer Defects, Jan. 22, presented by Jeffrey C. Markt, D.D.S., assistant professor in the SIUE School of Dental Medicine.

— Assessment and the Call for Educational Accountability, Jan. 29, presented by Douglas Eder, associate professor in the SIUE College of Arts and Sciences.

— Meeting with International Students, Feb. 5, presented by Michelle Estaque, director of the Intensive English Program in the SIUE College of Arts and Sciences.

— Behind the Veil, Feb. 19, presented by Louise H. Rider and John R. Rider, emeritus professor in the SIUE Department of Mass Communications.

— Turkey: The New Iran or New Malaysia? Feb. 26, presented by Ali M. Kutun, associate professor in the SIUE School of Business.

— Starting and Sticking with an Exercise Program, March 5, presented by Curt Lox, assistant professor in the SIUE School of Education.

# Police beat

The following are among incidents reported recently to area police departments.

## Theft

• Joyce A. Meyer, 39, of the 2500 block of Revere's Route in Granite City, was arrested at 6:50 p.m. Dec. 17 on a felony warrant charging her with theft of more than \$10,000.

## Drug possession

• Christopher A. Niehaus, 31, of the 1100 block of McCambridge in Madison, was arrested at 6 p.m. Dec. 18 on a felony warrant charging him with unlawful possession of cannabis with the intent to sell it.

• Donna M. Hill, 36, of the

1600 block of Sixth Street in Madison, was arrested at 4:35 a.m. Dec. 19 on a felony warrant charging her with unlawful possession of a controlled substance.

• Walter J. Lohman, 37, of the 2000 block of Lee Avenue in Granite City, was arrested at 5:14 p.m. Dec. 19 and charged with unlawful possession of cannabis.

According to a police report, Lohman possessed a plastic bag containing a small quantity of a green leafy substance, alleged cannabis, and four hand-rolled cigarettes, believed to contain marijuana, while being arrested at his home on a felony warrant charging him with obstructing justice.

## Telephone harassment

• Lewis R. "Randy" Affolter, 40, of the 2500 block of Stratford Lane in Granite City, was arrested at 3:38 p.m. Dec. 18 and charged with telephone harassment.

## Burglary

• Jason D. Womack, 17, of the 1700 block of Kennedy Drive in Madison was arrested at 2:11 a.m. Dec. 19 on a felony warrant charging him with burglary.

Womack was also charged with assault, resisting a police officer, being a minor in possession of alcohol and offenses relating to motor vehicles, according to a police report.

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# Opinion

## Editorials

### Put parochialism aside

Officials in the Tri-City area should put aside their petty differences and work together for the betterment of the region as a whole.

Much has been made in recent weeks of the apparently growing chasm between the area's units of local government. Granite City, Madison and Pontoon Beach have been engaged in an escalating land-grab contest, hurrying to annex property and thereby increase assessed valuation — sometimes at the expense of other units of government.

Officials should put aside the competition and replace it with a spirit of cooperation that would benefit all.

In October, Granite City and Pontoon Beach raced to annex a couple of businesses located between their corporate boundaries on Illinois 162. In order to accommodate the owners of those businesses, Granite City called a special meeting and annexed the property the night before Pontoon Beach planned to take the land against the owners' wishes.

Similarly, Madison officials recently took advantage of a state statute that applied only to their city to "jump over" federally-owned land and annex a large part of Chouteau Island — including the Waste Management Chain of Rocks Landfill and the old Chain of Rocks Bridge — located more than five miles from Madison proper.

Both annexations resulted in lawsuits. Pontoon Beach has challenged the Granite City annexations and Madison County has objected to the Madison annexation.

But the land grabbing has also led to hostility between local municipalities. For example, Madison officials have publicly voiced objections to a proposed yard waste drop-off facility in Granite City — even though those same officials know full well that the proposed transfer station poses no threat to Madison residents while providing significant benefits to the residents of Granite City.

Ironically, residents living near the Chain of Rocks landfill — those who would be greatly impacted should Waste Management apply for expansion of the facility — have no hope for representation of their interests by the Madison City Council — which now has sitting authority — because they are not within the city limits.

Have those Madison officials already forgotten that Granite City had to approve expansion of the Madison County enterprise zone in order for the current \$25 million expansion of Gateway International Raceway to take place? That single project has already resulted in hundreds of local construction jobs and will create hundreds more permanent jobs. And spinoff development, such as new hotels, restaurants and other supporting services, has already begun.

If not for the cooperation of Granite City officials, the most important economic development project this region — and the city of Madison — has seen in years would have remained only a dream.

Now Granite City has proposed establishing a tax increment finance district along Illinois 3, including undeveloped property of the Tri-City Regional Port. The proposed TIF district will lure development that would otherwise locate elsewhere.

But creation of the TIF depends on the ability of Granite City to annex the undeveloped port property, which is currently unincorporated. Officials in Venice, Madison and Granite City must all agree to the annexation before the federal government will allow the annexation.

The port project in question is mostly farm land and contributing little to the property tax base of Venice and Chouteau townships. Its value lies not in its current state, but in the potential it provides for future industrial and commercial development.

Without the creation of a TIF district, the port property will likely remain undeveloped for a long time. Conversely, property tax incentives created by a TIF district will likely lead to development and result in jobs for local residents and increased assessed valuation for the local government entities.

We encourage local officials to put aside petty differences and cooperate for the benefit of all. It worked on the Gateway development and it can work again to help continue economic growth for the entire region.

### Put town question to vote

Voters in Granite City were unable last November to voice their opinion on the usefulness of township government because an effort to put a referendum on the ballot was blocked by some township officials and employees.

While we are not yet convinced that elimination of township government in Granite City would benefit residents, we are certain that public input on the question would be valuable and would help officials steer the ship of city and township government.

Mayoral candidate David Partney has renewed his petition drive to put a township referendum on the April 1 ballot. We hope the drive is successful in placing the question on the ballot, thereby opening a public forum in which the benefits and liabilities of township government in Granite City can be debated.

Even those who do not support Partney's candidacy for mayor — and even those who are involved in Granite City Township government — should support the drive to put the question on the ballot: "Shall township organization be continued in the city and township of Granite City?"

There are many benefits to township government, including local property assessment, assistance to the needy, transportation programs and programs for seniors.

But there are also questions about the way Granite City Township currently provides those services. The general assistance program, for example, has annually spent far more on administration than on actual assistance to the needy. And while the county assessing office assesses the property at a rate of about \$7.50 per parcel, it costs the taxpayers about \$38 per parcel to assess township property.

Can those services be provided more efficiently? Probably.

Can they be provided more efficiently by the county or the city instead of the township? We're not sure.

Perhaps the referendum would result in a resounding endorsement of township government in Granite City. Or maybe it would let officials know that residents would like to see their tax dollars be spent more efficiently.

But an option to discuss the merits of township services can only be beneficial to the taxpayers.



## Carol's comments

### Time for a visit with Rat, Mole

It's here and I'm ready, or at least as ready as I'm ever going to be. Shopping completed, letters and cards in the mail, quarters as shipshape as possible. Patting myself on the back for what passes as supreme organization in my book.

"Mail visits my mail and successful avoidance of Tiny Tim and, even worse, the maudlin seasonal bore, 'It's a Wonderful Life.' If anything could make me suicidal, that cornball epic would do it.

Should I want to renew acquaintance with a younger Jimmy Stewart, I'll drag out a video of 'Harvey.'

However, even I get a bit sentimental at this time of year, so over the weekend, I pulled a dog-eared copy of 'The Wind in the Willows' off the shelf and re-read the 'Dolce Domum' chapter. Christmas Eve with Rat and Mole who, after a day's outing with Otter, inadvertently stumble across Mole's old, abandoned hole — in the ground. They build a fire, clean the place up, find a few captain's biscuits, a German sausage, sardines, and beer and are then visited by a crew of caroling field mice, who they invite in for supper and



Carol Clarkin

celebration. A simple child's tale and I honestly can't explain why it's always charmed me, but it does.

Later, rummaging through some files in search of information I actually needed, I ran across yet another Christmas story, one I'd forgotten but had liked well enough to squirrel away several years ago, after my friend and fellow railbird, Leon Corlew, gave me a copy.

Written by the late David Alexander, it was first published in The Thoroughbred Record issue of Dec. 23, 1967, and won the TRA magazine award for the year's outstanding article on thoroughbred racing, a forerunner of the Eclipse Award. It's called 'A Christmas Fable' and, like 'Dolce Domum,' is a simple story. It begins with the arrival of Native Dancer (who,

if you recall, lost the Kentucky Derby of '53 to Dark Star) in an equine heaven, complete with the greenest grass and pearliest white paddock gate he'd ever seen.

He's greeted by an ancestor, the great Eclipse, who tells him it's called The Green Place, explains the rules and warns him that if he expects to stay, he'd better mind his p's and q's in order not to offend The Big Guy.

But he doesn't reveal The Big Guy's identity to the newcomer, telling him only that he'll meet him at Christmas. Native Dancer figures it has to be Man O' War, but as time goes by, he meets Man O' War, as well as other famous horses, ranging from Herod and Figure (Justin Morgan) to Alexander the Great's Bucephalus, Robert E. Lee's Traveler, Sheridan's Rienzi, Stonewall Jackson's Little Sorrel.

He comes to love The Green Place and, as Christmas approaches, becomes nervous that he won't meet The Big Guy's approval until, finally, the big night arrives and the horses gather near a little hill in the enormous paddock.

And in the diamond-starlight, The Big Guy appears on the

hillock and Native Dancer can't believe his eyes.

"He's little. He isn't even a horse. What did he ever do?" he asks Eclipse. "He's a donkey," Eclipse explains.

"He carried a woman heavy with child to a small town on another night when the stars were bright. It was a long, long time ago."

I suppose the appeal of "Dolce Domum" is that of home as a haven and "The Christmas Fable" because it's what the holiday is all about.

The fact that both are about animals probably has something to do with my pleasure, too. Merry Christmas.

An afterthought, though. If you're planning ahead to next week, remember to watch New Year's Eve. It IS Amateur Night, remember.

But DO celebrate New Year's Day at the Fourth Annual Shriner's Children's Hospital fund-raiser, 10 a.m. till 7 p.m. at Vanzo's on Main Street.

Food and fun are free, you pay for drinks, but most importantly, all tips go to the hospital fund. The event, to date, has raised over \$3,000 for the charity. Show up, have fun, and be generous.

## Letters to the editor

### Credit union is endangered

TO THE EDITOR: Let me first introduce myself. I am the current president of U.S.W.A. Local 30 and as such I represent the union employees of the Granite City Steel Credit Union.

I am writing this letter in an attempt to enlighten all who deal with the Granite City Steel and Community Federal Credit Union as to the arbitrary and dictatorial attitude adopted by those in managerial and leadership positions controlling the institution.

These people in control of the credit union run this facility through bullying, intimidation, coercion, and any other manner which can be perceived as threatening. If we are to continue, the institution will become as unear, unfeeling and unfriendly as any other run the same way. After all, one of the reasons the credit union is there is to be for us, as members, a nice friendly, almost family place to do business. If they continue to play musical chairs with the tellers, how can we ever feel comfortable with any one individual?

All this is being eroded or just taken away from you those in controlling positions. The union fights these issues, but we are forced to go through procedures to do so. We have access to a grievance and arbitration which we utilize but management will even interfere with those attempting

to conduct legitimate union business. This subject and the outright destruction of a scheduling practice in existence for many years are the topics currently contained in charges filed with the National Labor Relations Board against present management (Case 14-CA-24299; filed 10/21/96).

None of these things is conducive to maintaining our institution for ourselves the way we desire it. At the end of this letter will be a December 31, 1995, list of the Credit Union Board of Directors who seem to support this nonsense, along with those in management positions who instigate it. Then ask those with a conscience as good union people, or as a concerned member of the community, to please call these leaders and express your views and/or concerns. Mark Holshouser, Manager, 797-7993, Ext. 314; Keith Burton, Assistant Manager, Ext. 309; Sally Frisse, Branch Manager, Ext. 350; Janet Wheatley, Member Service Manager, Ext. 306; Board of Directors: Bob Mar- ceau, president; Dean Ruebhausen, vice president; Lou Kei, treasurer; Shirley Gehon, secretary; Billy Heath, Chris Amisch, Leo Six, Bert Enfield, Russell Robinson, Tom Worthen, and Bud Phelps.

One more suggestion: While you have any of these people on the phone, ask why they feel it necessary to spend our money hiring big shot St. Louis lawyers to negotiate their union contract.

MIKE ROGERS  
Granite City

### Vet reunions

TO THE EDITOR: Veterans who served in the China-Burma-India Theater in World War II have two opportunities to attend reunions in the midwest in 1997.

A Midwest reunion will be held in St. Louis May 30-June 1 at the Airport Hilton Hotel and the China-Burma-India Veter-

ans Association will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of it founding in Milwaukee Aug. 28-31.

The CBI VA currently has 8,000 members living in every state of the Union. For more information about the association and the two reunions write to: CBI VA, P.O. Box 190374, St. Louis, Mo., 63119.

DAVID DALE,  
St. Louis

## Granite City Press-Record

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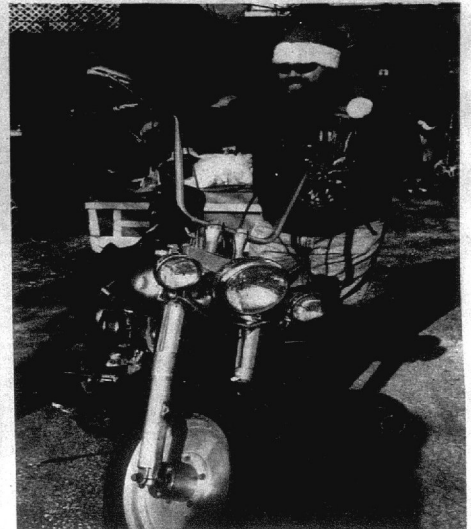
# People

## Motorcycle club comes through for center



(Staff photos by JOHN FRESE)

Above, members of the Free Spirits Motorcycle Club unload a wagonload of food and toys at the Phoenix Crisis Center. The club organized a special toy ride to provide some help over the holidays to the center. At right, James "Big 'Un" Brown gets ready to saddle up for the ride from the Free Spirits' clubhouse to the center.



At left, the cyclists assemble behind their clubhouse for the ride. At right, two of Santa's helpers, Cody Conway and his mother, Sally, distribute some of the gifts. Below left, "Pedro" carries a bag of groceries to the Phoenix Crisis Center. Below right, a stuffed Frosty the Snowman looks back from his perch on the back of a hog.



At right, the Free Spirits and those joining them on the ride crest the 19th Street overpass. Above, some of the riders wave to pedestrians on their way to the Phoenix Center.



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# LOCAL NEWS

## Senior menus

Donations for noon meals are \$2. Call day ahead for reservation, 877-4373.

**Wednesday, Dec. 23**  
Site Closed For Christmas.

**Thursday, Dec. 24**  
Fried chicken, whipped potatoes with gravy, Brussel sprouts, wheat bread, sugar cookies.

**Friday, Dec. 25**

Swiss steak, Delmonico potatoes, spinach, wheat bread, peach cobbler.

**Monday, Dec. 30**  
Chicken and dumplings, sliced beets, green peas, wheat bread, raspberry sherbet.

**Tuesday, Dec. 31**  
Polish sausage, whipped potatoes with gravy, sauerkraut, rye, cherry turnover.

## Awards

(Continued from Page 1A)

Farley has been associated with SIUE since 1977. He is a past president of the Faculty Senate and a former member of the Human Relations Advisory Committee, which created the University's Diversity Plan.

Farley also has been an active member of the Racial Polarization Task Force and the Structural Unemployment Task Force of Confluence St. Louis.

He co-founded and is president of the Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing Opportunity Council, which tests for racial steering in the real estate market and reports violations of equal housing laws to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Verdu will receive the Community Humanitarian Award for helping create BAC Programs and Services for Older Persons.

Verdu also is chairman of the St. Clair County Housing Authority Board; he helped organize one of the first meals on wheels programs in Calumet Township.

During the 1960s, Verdu was a lay missionary in Belize and has helped bring more than 50 Belizean children with health problems to the United States to receive medical care. He also has worked with American Physicians in operating screening clinics in Belize for ill children.

## Bridge

(Continued from Page 1A)

said the project has gained national attention and additional funding should begin to come in once the lease agreement is finalized.

Both parties plan to finalize the agreement Friday.

The bridge renovation project was recently featured as a cover story in "Route 66" magazine, a publication of the Historic Route 66 preservation organization.

Under the terms of the lease agreement, Madison can lease other portions of the bridge, such as the structure beneath, to other companies as long as the use does not interfere with Gateway Trailnet's use.

For example, if a natural gas or telecommunications company wanted to run lines under the bridge to connect the Illinois and Missouri sides, Madison could lease the property.

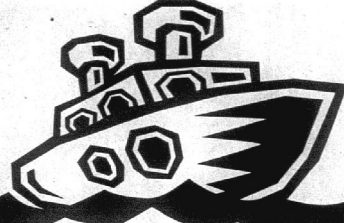
Also under the terms of the lease, the city will have exclusive access to the bridge for up to 14 days for city-sponsored public events; and the city has the right and intent to copyright the name "Chain of Rocks Bridge" and to license its use.

Trailnet has the preferential right to purchase the bridge if a third party makes an offer to the city, according to the agreement.

In other action, the City Council approved hiring two new police officers, both of whom will begin training at the Belleville Area College police academy Jan. 2; authorized the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners to begin accepting applications to establish a new police officer eligibility list; announced that recycling bins will be distributed to city residents by the second week in January; and authorized Bellcoff to enter into an agreement with Abbott-Lifeforce Ambulance service.

Under the terms of the three-year agreement, effective Jan. 1, Abbott-Lifeforce will maintain two advanced life support ambulances in or near the city 24 hours a day year round.

Abbott-Lifeforce has guaranteed a four- to six-minute response time on at least 90 percent of all calls.



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## Obituaries

## L. Mikolaszuk

Leonard A. Mikolaszuk, 72, of Madison died Tuesday, Dec. 20, 1996, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City. He was born July 19, 1924, in North Venice, and was a lifetime resident of Madison.

Mr. Mikolaszuk, a World War II Army veteran, retired from Laclede Steel in Madison, Mo., after 35 years as a tender operator. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Madison, American Legion Post 307, Knights of Columbus Council 1098, F.O.E. Post 1126, AmVets Post 204, and Polish Hall 1004.

Survivors include his wife, Alberta (Kellie) Mikolaszuk, whom he married May 20, 1950; a son, Leonard Mikolaszuk of Granite City; a daughter, Edward Mikolaszuk of Raleigh, N.C.; a sister, Sophie Kraus of Madison; three brothers, Edward Mikolaszuk, Joseph Mikolaszuk of Edwardsville, and Stanley Mikolaszuk of Louisiana; and one grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alexander and Bernadine (Yakubik) Mikolaszuk; and two brothers, Robert and Raymond Mikolaszuk.

Services were held Monday, Dec. 23, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1621 10th Street, Madison, with the Rev. Delix Michal officiating. Burial was in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis County, Mo.

Memorials are suggested to St. Mary's Catholic Church or St. Mary's Cemetery.

Arrangements were handled by Irwin Funeral Home, 3960 Maryville, Granite City.

**Mary Guioff**

Mary (Krekovich) Guioff, 75, of Granite City died at 7:04 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, 1996, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. She was born Dec. 27, 1920, in Granite City.

Mrs. Guioff retired in 1986

as a clerk from CPI of St. Louis. She was of the Catholic faith.

Survivors include two daughters, Karla Keel and Sandra Fisher, both of Granite City; seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, St. Guioff; her parents, Robert and Amanda Krekovich; and a son-in-law.

Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. today, Thursday, Dec. 26, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City. Services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Irwin Chapel, Granite City, with the Rev. Francis Tebananga. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery, Edwardsville.

**Perry Bowen**

Perry I. Bowen, 79, of Washington Park died at 9:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, 1996, in St. Louis, as the result of an automobile accident. He was born Sept. 13, 1917, in Cherry Valley, Mo.

His wife, Emma Dell (Smith) Bowen, also died in the accident.

Mr. Bowen, an Army veteran, retired as a truck driver from Allen Foods in St. Louis.

Survivors include two daughters, Audrey Diane Schmid of Milwaukee; three sons, Johnnie, Elijah, and Eugene

Gardner, all of Madison; three grandchildren; eleven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Walter.

Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. today, Thursday, Dec. 26, at the Catholic Church, 300 W. Lincoln, Caseyville. Services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Herr Caseyville Chapel with the Rev. Walter Martinez officiating. Burial will be in Valhalla Gardens of Memory, Belleville.

**Emma Bowen**

Emma Dell (Smith) Bowen, 77, of Washington Park died at 9:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, 1996, in St. Louis, as the result of an automobile accident. She was born July 1, 1919, in Illinois.

Mr. Bowen, an Army veteran, retired as a truck driver from Allen Foods in St. Louis.

Survivors include two daughters, Audrey Diane Schmid of Milwaukee; three sons, Johnnie, Elijah, and Eugene Gardner, all of Madison; three grandchildren; eleven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Walter.

Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. today, Thursday, Dec. 26, at the Catholic Church, 300 W. Lincoln, Caseyville. Services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Herr Caseyville Chapel with the Rev. Walter Martinez officiating. Burial will be in Valhalla Gardens of Memory, Belleville.

**Charles Volkner**

Charles W. "Charlie" Volkner, 91, of Granite City, formerly of Pleron, died at 12:45 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, 1996, at Colorado Care Center in Granite City. He was born Sept. 27, 1905, in Dennison.

Mr. Volkner went to work at an early age for Penn-Central Railroad and worked his way up to being general track foreman for the railroad in Granite City, Central Illinois. He lived in the communities along the track from Granite City to Dennison.

From 1940 on, he and his family lived in Pleron. He retired from the railroad in 1970 at the age of 60. He enjoyed gardening and fruit trees; riding his motorcycle; cooking; was a very good photographer; and was a former member of Woodmen of the World.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City, with the Rev. Greg Dickerman officiating. Burial was in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis County, Mo.

Memorials suggested to the National Cancer Institute. BRANDING, Mary M. Knipping, 96, of Granite City, formerly of South Roxana, died at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, at Colonades Nursing Home in Granite City.

Services were held Monday, Dec. 23, at Payne Home for Funerals, 618 East Airline Drive, Rosewood Heights (Wood River). Burial was in Wanda Cemetery, South Roxana.

Memorials suggested to Wanda Methodist Church, Wanda.

EBERHARDT, Irene E. (Gorbe), 84, of Creve Coeur, formerly of Granite City, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1996, at her residence.

Services were Saturday, Dec. 21, at Concordia Lutheran Church, 505 S. Kirkwood, Creve Coeur. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Edwardsville.

Memorials suggested to either the Lutheran Good Neighbor Program, 723 S. Laclede Station Road, St. Louis, Mo. 63119, or Alzheimer's Association, St. Louis Chapter, 9374 Olive Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63122-2214.

Arrangements were handled by Pitfitter Funeral Home, 331 S. Kirkwood, Creve Coeur.

SEXTON, Wilton C. "Bill", 71,

of Granite City died at 8:20 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1996, at his daughter's home in St. Jacob.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Mercer Chapel, 1416 N. Dinghams, Granite City, with the Rev. Greg Dickerman officiating. Burial was in Lake View Memorial Gardens, Fairview Heights.

Memorials to the American Cancer Society are suggested. NELSON, Pamela L. (Reinhardt), 38, of St. Louis, formerly of Granite City, died at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1996, at St. Louis Regional Medical Center.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City, with the Rev. Dr. Gerald Hill officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

Memorials are suggested to Mitchell Presbyterian Church, Mitchell.

JURGENSEN, Mildred Kathleen, 68, of Granite City died at 2:13 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1996, at her residence following a 1 1/2 year illness.

The body was cremated. Graveside services were held Friday, Dec. 20, at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis County, Mo.

Arrangements were handled by Werner Chapel for Funerals, 3939 Lake Drive, Pontoon Beach, at 6:05 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, 1996, at his residence.

Survivors include one daughter, Charlene Holmes of Granite City; two sons, Jack Volkner of Phoenix, Ariz., and Melvin E. Volkner of Highland; a sister, Rachel Vernon of Houston; ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lou Nellie (Eller) Volkner, who died Oct. 6, 1928, in Marshall, and who died June 13, 1983; his parents, Raymond and Anne (Joy) Volkner; and two sisters, Esther and Ola Volkner.

Services were held Tuesday, Dec. 24, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home, 1501 Ninth, Highland, with the Rev. David Taylor officiating. Burial was in Highland City Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to charity of the donor's choice.

**Christine Hull**

Christine Hull, 84, of Belleville died Saturday, Dec. 21, 1996, at her residence. She was a native of Earl, Ark.

Survivors include one daughter, Lillie Nelson of Madison; three sisters, Mildred Orsha of Fort Wayne, Ind., Lucille Hurt of Chicago, and Eliza Gardner of Milwaukee; three brothers, Johnnie, Elijah, and Eugene Gardner, all of Madison; three grandchildren; eleven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 28, at God's Grace Church of God in Christ, 800 Bissell, Belleville, with the Rev. Claude Ratliff officiating. Burial was in Sunset Gardens of Memory Cemetery, St. Louis County.

**Charles Volkner**

Charles W. "Charlie" Volkner, 91, of Granite City, formerly of Pleron, died at 12:45 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, 1996, at Colorado Care Center in Granite City. He was born Sept. 27, 1905, in Dennison.

Mr. Volkner went to work at an early age for Penn-Central Railroad and worked his way up to being general track foreman for the railroad in Granite City, Central Illinois. He lived in the communities along the track from Granite City to Dennison.

From 1940 on, he and his family lived in Pleron. He retired from the railroad in 1970 at the age of 60. He enjoyed gardening and fruit trees; riding his motorcycle; cooking; was a very good photographer; and was a former member of Woodmen of the World.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City, with the Rev. Greg Dickerman officiating. Burial was in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis County, Mo.

Memorials suggested to the National Cancer Institute. BRANDING, Mary M. Knipping, 96, of Granite City, formerly of South Roxana, died at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, at Colonades Nursing Home in Granite City.

Services were held Monday, Dec. 23, at Payne Home for Funerals, 618 East Airline Drive, Rosewood Heights (Wood River). Burial was in Wanda Cemetery, South Roxana.

Memorials suggested to Wanda Methodist Church, Wanda.

EBERHARDT, Irene E. (Gorbe), 84, of Creve Coeur, formerly of Granite City, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1996, at her residence.

Services were Saturday, Dec. 21, at Concordia Lutheran Church, 505 S. Kirkwood, Creve Coeur. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Edwardsville.

Memorials suggested to either the Lutheran Good Neighbor Program, 723 S. Laclede Station Road, St. Louis, Mo. 63119, or Alzheimer's Association, St. Louis Chapter, 9374 Olive Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63122-2214.

Arrangements were handled by Pitfitter Funeral Home, 331 S. Kirkwood, Creve Coeur.

SEXTON, Wilton C. "Bill", 71,

of Granite City died at 8:20 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1996, at his daughter's home in St. Jacob.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Mercer Chapel, 1416 N. Dinghams, Granite City, with the Rev. Greg Dickerman officiating. Burial was in Lake View Memorial Gardens, Fairview Heights.

Memorials to the American Cancer Society are suggested. NELSON, Pamela L. (Reinhardt), 38, of St. Louis, formerly of Granite City, died at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1996, at St. Louis Regional Medical Center.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City, with the Rev. Dr. Gerald Hill officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

Memorials are suggested to Mitchell Presbyterian Church, Mitchell.

JURGENSEN, Mildred Kathleen, 68, of Granite City died at 2:13 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1996, at her residence following a 1 1/2 year illness.

The body was cremated. Graveside services were held Friday, Dec. 20, at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis County, Mo.

Arrangements were handled by Werner Chapel for Funerals, 3939 Lake Drive, Pontoon Beach, at 6:05 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, 1996, at his residence.

Survivors include one daughter, Charlene Holmes of Granite City; two sons, Jack Volkner of Phoenix, Ariz., and Melvin E. Volkner of Highland; a sister, Rachel Vernon of Houston; ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lou Nellie (Eller) Volkner, who died Oct. 6, 1928, in Marshall, and who died June 13, 1983; his parents, Raymond and Anne (Joy) Volkner; and two sisters, Esther and Ola Volkner.

Services were held Tuesday, Dec. 24, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home, 1501 Ninth, Highland, with the Rev. David Taylor officiating. Burial was in Highland City Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to charity of the donor's choice.

**Sulfide gas forces evacuation**

Hydrogen sulfide gas from an unidentified source emptied a 13-unit apartment building off Esic Drive in Edwardsville and sent some residents and firefighters to the hospital.

Our detector picked up hydrogen sulfide gas, but we never pinpointed the source," Fire Chief Mike Karchchik said.

"The owner is working with a private contractor to find the cause."

Firefighters began checking the apartments on Lanchashire Drive about 11:30 a.m. Friday after tenants reported a "strange smell" in the building, authorities said.

The smell spread throughout the three-story building and began ventilating in the third floor," Karchchik said.

Firefighters evacuated the building and began ventilating it. Authorities had no estimate of the number of occupants.

"They were all conscious and alert. They had symptoms of dry, raspy throats, nausea and dizziness," Karchchik said.

He said he was unsure of the number of tenants who sought medical attention.

— From The Telegraph

## News in review

News in review provides a summary of some of the past week's stories. This column is designed for out-of-town readers who do not receive the Sunday and Wednesday Press-Record/Journals.

## Explosion knocks out power

The Illinois Power plant was rocked by another fiery explosion Friday that left thousands of power customers in the cold and sent firefighters scrambling on another tiresome mission.

It was the second explosion in three days at the plant. Firefighters also battled a blaze there Wednesday evening. A power transformer at the plant on Chessen Lane near Illinois Route 143 burst into flames about 11:30 a.m. Friday, leaving an estimated 16,000 customers from Bethalto to Hartford without electricity for more than four hours.

"This is just another unfortunate occurrence," Illinois Power regional manager Jim Brown said. "We were lucky that once again we had no injuries. Our customers had to suffer the brunt of the situation, but full power has been restored."

Company crews scrambled Friday afternoon to reroute power to several communities.

## Peterson joins school board

Setting high standards and improving parental involvement are two of the goals of Madison School Board member-elect Harry Peterson.

Peterson, a dispatcher for the Madison Police Department, was sworn in at a special board meeting Thursday. He takes the place of former board president John Hammi, who recently resigned to devote more time to his mayoral campaign.

Peterson is a 1966 graduate of Assumption High School, and a 1970 graduate of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville with a bachelor's degree.

## County OKs pay hikes

The Madison County Board approved \$42,570 in raises Wednesday for 21 appointed department heads.

The raises come seven months after the board granted 33 percent pay raises for four elected county officials who demanded the increases to bring them in line with appointed officials' salaries.

Wednesday's raises are based on a flat percentage rate, but board members plan to discuss implementing a merit-based system next year.

## 2 indicted for bank robberies

Two alleged bank robbers, one a Madison resident and the other from Granite City, were indicted Wednesday by a federal grand jury sitting in East St. Louis.

Donald Avery Long, 29, a resident of the Haynes Apartments in the 700 block of Webster Street in Madison, was charged with one count of bank robbery and one count of using a firearm during a violent crime.

He is alleged to have robbed Roosevelt Bank, 1825 Delmar Ave. in Granite City, at about 12:30 p.m. Dec. 2.

Michael Wayne Fulkerson, 43, of Granite City, was charged with one count of bank robbery and one count of using a firearm during a violent crime.

He is alleged to have robbed Central Bank, 501 Belt Line in Collinsville, at about 9:30 a.m. Nov. 22.

Services were held Tuesday, Dec. 17, at Werner Chapel for Funerals, 3939 Lake Drive, Pontoon Beach. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Edwardsville.

WHITE, Marcus Anthony, 35, of Venice died Tuesday, Dec. 17, 1996, in Naples, Fla. Services were Monday, Dec. 23, at Friendship Baptist Church, 301 Mercedia, Madison, with the Rev. Lawrence Nash officiating. Burial was in Sunset Gardens of Memory in Millstadt.

Arrangements were handled by Officer Funeral Home, 2114 Missouri Avenue, East St. Louis.

ROGERS, Clyde R., 91, of Granite City died at 2:25 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville, Granite City, with the Rev. James H. Heath Sr. officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Foundation. OLIVER, Vertie L. (Barr), 63, of Fairview Heights, formerly of Collinsville, died at 11:45 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, at Memorial Convalescent Center.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Kassy Mortuary, Chapel, 9900 St. Clair Ave., Fairview Heights, with the Rev. Hal Santos officiating. Burial was in Lake View Memorial Gardens, Fairview Heights.

Services were held Tuesday, Dec. 17, at Werner Chapel for Funerals, 3939 Lake Drive, Pontoon Beach, IL 618-797-1009.

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## Funeral summary

HARMON, Vera A. (Fieldner), 66, of Granite City died at 11:15 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, 1996, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

Services were held Tuesday, Dec. 24, at Werner Chapel for Funerals, 3939 Lake Drive, Pontoon Beach, with the Rev. Carter officiating. Burial was in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis.

WILLIAMS, Winston G., 79, of Pocatonton, formerly of East St. Louis, died at 2:22 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, 1996, at St. Joseph Hospital in Highland.

Services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Kassy Mortuary, 9900 St. Clair, Fairview Heights, with the Rev. Richard L. Hodshire officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Memorial Gardens in Fairview Heights.

Memorials are suggested to Moose Heart Childrens Home, c/o Moose Lodge 4, 6550 Burnham Road, Caseyville, IL 62232.

HOFFMAN, Arthur "Art", 87, of Granite City died at 8:03 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, at his residence.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, at Second Baptist Church, 21st & Illinois Avenue, Granite City, with the Rev. David Tyler officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Edwardsville.

Memorials suggested to Building Fund of Second Baptist Church.

Arrangements handled by Thomas Mortuary, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City.

VOTOUAL, Mildred A. (Polach), 84, of Granite City, died Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center.

Services were Saturday, Dec. 21, at Chapel for Funerals, 3939 Lake Drive, Granite City, with the Rev. Tom Wise officiating. Burial was in Buck Road Cemetery, Glen Carbon.

Memorials are suggested in the form of Masses.

LOPEZ, Michael S., 51, of Germany, formerly of Glen Carbon, died Sunday, Dec. 15, 1996, at a hospital in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, after suffering a massive heart attack.

Services were held Monday, Dec. 22, at St. Cecilia Church, 1501 N. Main, Glen Carbon, with the Rev. Stephen Pohlman officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

Arrangements were handled by Weber Funeral Home, 304 N. Main, Edwardsville.

SCHNEIDER, Ernest, 84, of Louisburg, Mo., formerly of Granite City and Maryville, died Saturday, Dec. 14, 1996, in Springfield, Mo.

A memorial service is scheduled for 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at St. Luke United Methodist Church, 6325 W. Main.

WILLIAMS, Irene V. (Bartoski), 67, of Granite City died at 2:25 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

Services were held Sunday,

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Officials agree that crime statistics may not always paint an accurate picture, but do help serve as a navigational indicator.

- *From The Telegraph*

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<p>Twas the night before Christmas            and all through the crowd,            Not a bidder was absent            Cause they were all proud.            There were thousands of items            they wanted to buy            And to give all the others            A Holiday "Hi".            All the antiques            Were checking their list            To see what the market            would bring for the lists.            Tool buyers were present            Looking for deals,            Craftsmen and keen kutter            Oh, what a feast!</p>	<p>"Miscellaneous" buyers            Were searching the rows,            Blinding on piles            Not wanting the clothes            The glassware was spotless            Carnies and depression            Waterford and Candlewick            Made a great impression.            An Old London            Was found in a box,            A toy connoisseur            Did buy like a lord.            As the sale was over            And we left the site,            Terry &amp; Luke shouted Merry Christmas            And to all a Good Night.</p>
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# Sports

# B



Bob Emig

## Area tourneys holiday fare for hoops fans

One of the rites of winter is the high school basketball tournaments. Right after Christmas, teams throughout the state go lither and yon to seek another Christmas present, a tournament championship. Other than the Illinois state playoffs, more commonly known as March Madness, Christmas holiday tournaments are the panacea for basketball junkies.

Some may argue that the holiday tournaments are even more of a fix for basketball junkies than March Madness, given the plethora of games in a short period of time, usually three or four days.

In this area alone, basketball fans have six tournaments to choose from involving local teams. On tap from Dec. 26-30 are 151 games. Some of the diehard fans may take in 20 or more games.

Area fans can take in the big schools at Collinsville, see some of the better small schools at Freeburg in the Freeburg-Columbia Holiday Tournament or take in the rich aroma of tradition at Centralia, where its holiday tournament will be making its 54th run. There are also 10-team, round-robin tournaments at Mater Dei and Vandalia and a college atmosphere for the Charleston Holiday Tournament at Eastern Illinois University.

Holiday tournaments give coaches a good opportunity to assess their talent in a short period of time and ready themselves for conference play and eventually the postseason. Some of the coaches' talents emerge to take over for the more experienced players. Some coaches, perhaps realizing the season not going as they had hoped, will start rebuilding for next season.

It's also a time for families to come together and enjoy the holiday. Many youngsters have caught the basketball bug by following older brothers and sisters in the tournaments. Others have enjoyed the games with their fathers, who made names for themselves playing on the same floors that their sons or daughters are now playing on.

It's also a time for proud grandparents, aunts and uncles to see their young relatives perform. Maybe it's the only time they see them all year.

For sportswriters covering the tournaments, it's like a fire sale. They're scurrying here and there like squirrels going for nuts for the winter as they try to cover as many games as possible involving area teams.

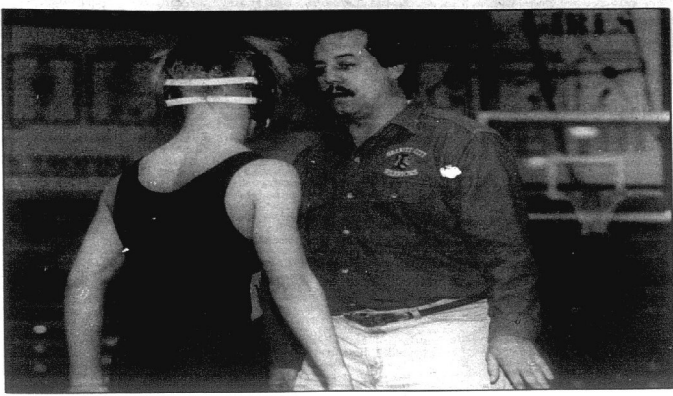
Like anything that takes place for many years, the tournaments have evolved. Collinsville, for years, played in the Carbondale holiday tournament, using STU Arena as a warm-up for when the Kahoks would play in the super-sectional there later in March.

Once a haven of would-be state champions, the Carbondale tournament has evolved into a Class A-Class A format. It was interesting three years ago when Class AA Carbondale and Class A Pinckneyville played for the title, and then Carbondale went on to place second in the state tournament after Pinckneyville had won the Class A state championship a week earlier.

Now in its 13th year, the Collinsville-Schnucks Holiday Classic has evolved into one of the top holiday tournaments of the state. The event includes the likes of traditional state powers Quincy, East St. Louis Lincoln, the Peoria schools, and, of course, the host Kahoks.

For girls basketball fans, the Mascoutah Invitational offers a strong collection of teams in southern Illinois. This year's tournament includes defending Class A state champion Carlyle and several Class AA powers, including Belleville East, Jerseyville and Centralia.

The enjoyment and memories holiday tournaments bring to families cannot be measured. It's a hectic time, but something that will always be treasured and remembered. What would the holiday season be without them?



Warriors coach Steve Garland talks to 119-pounder Benny Lofink during a recent match at Belleville West.

## Holiday tourney courts top talent

By Brian Bretsch  
Staff writer

In the 12 previous years of the Collinsville-Schnucks Holiday Classic, the post-Christmas tournament has truly showcased some great talent.

The tournament has seen a player go on to the National Basketball Association, a player reach the National Football League, players in minor league baseball and others who have starred or are starring at the Division I level.

"I think you can look at a guy like A.J. Guyton, who people saw last year and didn't realize how good he was or how quickly he would be a factor at a Top 20 program like Indiana," CHS coach Bob Bone said.

"There is always two, three or four kids that come in that are going to make a major impact and who you will see on TV the next several years. That's fun. You do enjoy watching kids like that play and thinking that they were a part of the tournament. That adds to the prestige of the tournament and the tradition we have built up."

Melvin Cochran, a 1996 graduate of CHS, is probably walking around campus at Belleville Area College with broad smile these days. Cochran almost completely shut down Guyton in the semifinals of the tournament a year ago, when the Kahoks won the tourney title. Now Guyton is playing on national television for Indiana.

"That's part of the chance to get to play against good people. (In a) tournament like this, you are going to see some good teams and some good individual players," Bone said. "You're going to see outstanding coaches. You have all of that here in three days."

Joe Blasingim (Edwardsville) is working his way through the San Francisco Giants organization as a minor league pitcher. Blasingim is among the Tigers' all-time top five scoring leaders.

Collinsville's own Richard Keene was a four-year starter at the University of Illinois and is currently waiting on a contract to play basketball overseas in Finland.

In fact, the Classic has been a good stomping ground for the Illini. Jacksonville's Andy Kaufmann, a three-time all-tournament honoree, finished as the Illini's top 50 all-time leading scorer. Rennie Clements (Springfield Calvary) is among the Illini's top 50 all-time scorers at No. 44.

Rodney Byrd (O'Fallon) was a running back for the Illinois football team. Jack Kramer (Quincy) started his college playing days at Michigan before eventually transferring to Alabama-Birmingham. Dana Jackson (Crystal Lake South) played four years for Wisconsin.

Tyrone Caswell, the 1993 Classic MVP, is playing for Charlie Spohnhour at St. Louis University.

"There also have been quite a few kids from Collinsville that have gone on and played at some places," Bone said. "The tournament was started by Frank Pitel and Jerry Langley. They kind of set the standards and the only thing we try to do is live up to the standards they set in the early years."

## Warriors aim for 4th straight title

By Brian L. Jones  
Correspondent

The Granite City Warriors have done almost everything else right this season.

So why not a record-setting, fourth consecutive team championship this week in the 36th Annual Granite City Holiday Wrestling Tournament? Odds are it will happen for the Warriors, still undefeated in dual meets at 11-0.

The addition of newcomers Edwardsville and Althoff brings more balance than ever to the 16-team field at Granite City. But the Warriors remain the frontrunner entering Friday's first three qualifying rounds, beginning at 11 a.m. The preliminary finals session begins at 11 a.m. Saturday on four mats.

The finals follow at 5 p.m., with the third and fifth place bouts on two mats. One mat is then spotlighted for the individual title bouts at 6:15 p.m.



Kyle Briggs and the Granite City Warriors face Peoria at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the first round of the Collinsville-Schnucks Holiday Classic.

## Granite City JV team recovers from slow start

By Brian L. Jones  
Correspondent

Unlike the Tier I Granite City varsity team, the junior varsity Warriors still compete in Tier II of the Mid-States Club Hockey Association.

Not unlike the varsity Warriors, the JV team is prolific in talent, yet unpredictable in results. The underclassmen improved to 4-2 last Friday with a 4-3 win over visiting Hazelwood East. They had been 1-3 before taking a three-game winning streak into last Monday's scheduled game at Hazelwood Central.

The Warriors are dormant until 6 p.m. on New Year's Day against Marquette High at the Fenton Ice Rink.

Second-year coach Gary Brown said his club deserves a perfect record. He'd settle now for matching last season's 9-4 mark in the inaugural year of the JV program.

"We've been a dominating team on offense," Brown said. "We've outshot teams by a 2-to-1 or 3-to-1 margin. We would have won every game, except maybe one. We're giving up too many goals. Our goaltending is very inexperienced."

Sophomore Kenny Knott and freshman Lester Grobe and Matt Freeze are all first-year prep netminders. They're also the only goalies in the program behind varsity senior ace Tony Evans.

Neither youngster has asserted himself as a JV frontrunner or top candidate to replace Evans next year.

"The Warriors seldom get embarrassed. They allow very few uneven rushes in their defensive zone. I've got some strong power hitters on defense," Brown said. "I don't want to put anything on the goaltending, because we should have more goals. We usually dominate controlling the puck. The goaltending against us has been very tough."

Brown has five regular defencemen he interchanges in pairs. The leaders

because we know we should be winning most," Brown said. "Winning these last three games (before Monday) has been an emotional lift."

The Warriors seldom get embarrassed. They allow very few uneven rushes in their defensive zone. I've got some strong power hitters on defense," Brown said. "I don't want to put anything on the goaltending, because we should have more goals. We usually dominate controlling the puck. The goaltending against us has been very tough."

Brown has five regular defencemen he interchanges in pairs. The leaders

## Last-minute rally ends Warriors' skid

By Brian L. Jones  
Correspondent

The Granite City Warriors have been the most consistent varsity hockey club this year, but they are a determined group.

A fourth consecutive loss seemed probable last Saturday when the Warriors trailed 3-1 after two periods to host Lafayette High at the U.S. Ice Complex in Chesterfield. GCHS senior Mikal Guffey scored a goal about five minutes into the third period to cut the deficit to 3-2, but that score held until less than a minute remained to play.

Then lightning struck twice. Sophomore Jon Burns scored the tying goal with 57 seconds left, stuffing through a nifty setup pass from centerman Bob Fritchard. Guffey then scored his third goal of the game — and his second hat trick of the season — with 38 seconds remaining for an eventual 3-3 tie.

It was easily the most dramatic win of the season for Granite City. "I've never felt on that game," said GCHS rookie coach Rick Hodge. "That was pure determination and those were a couple of nice goals there at the end. We outplayed them and controlled the game, without question."

The Warriors had a 36-22 advantage in shots on goal after two periods and never stopped attacking in the final 15 minutes. They finished with



Granite City's Mikal Guffey (second from right) goes after the puck as teammate Chris Hatfield looks on.

# Wrestlers

(Continued from Page 18)  
 "I think it's kind of up for grabs," said Garland, whose Warriors scored 215 points last year to hold off Civic Memorial (182), Oakville (151.5), McCluer North (149.5) and O'Fallon (128) in the top five. "CM's always the team to watch, but Edwardsville's going to be right in there battling and so will Francis Howell North (12th last year) and

Belleville West (9th). Edwardsville and Althoff bring a bunch of kids who could win their weight classes." Gone from last year's lineup are Roxana, Thomas Worthington (Ohio) and Chicago Math-er, who placed only 13th, 14th

and 16th, respectively. Other competing teams this year — in order of how they finished in '95 — are Mount Zion (6th), Belleville East (7th), Hazelwood Central (8th), Triad (10th), Carbondale (11th), East St. Louis Lincoln (15th) and Cahokia (17th).

Mount Zion has the only returning state champion in sophomore Brad Owens, who won the Class AA title at 119 pounds with an amazing 44-1 freshman record. Granite City juniors John Kelly (112 pounds) and Ike Newman (171) both finished second at different weights at last year's holiday tournament.

Yet, Kelly, 10-1 at 125 pounds before Saturday, and Newman, 8-3 at 160, are not necessarily the best the Warriors have to offer. Their most consistent wrestlers have been freshman Gary Oxford (10-1) at 103; sophomore Brooks Narvaez (9-2) at 140; and freshman George Kirgan (10-1) at 171. "Champions find a way to win, regardless of what adversity is in front of them," Garland said. "The kids that want it the most are the ones that will come out on top."

Civic Memorial, a defending regional champion, has one returning holiday titlist in 171-pound senior Jason Christeson. He also placed fifth last year at state. Other returning state qualifiers for the Eagles are junior Steve Bryant (103) and

seniors Ike Sullivan (140), Jake Sullivan (145) and Travis Zimmerman (171). Ryan Voyles was a sectional qualifier last year.

O'Fallon returns another holiday champion in senior Kevin Greenwood. Greenwood wrestled at 103 last year, but now competes mostly at 125 and placed second in that division at Saturday's Mascoutah Invitational. Senior Marshall Goodman (152), also second at Mascoutah at 145, is another returning state qualifier.

Edwardsville has numerous title contenders. The best of them are last year's state qualifiers, Eric Gibson (140), Clint Freitag (160) and Mike Franklin (189). Senior Doc Sanders (119) and Mascoutah tourney runner-up Jim Amunby (135) also are tough to beat.

Althoff, the only Class A school in the tournament, brings four of the most talented individuals — including Mascoutah tourney champion Dan Quartz at 155. The Crusaders' other returning state qualifiers are Blake Dintelman (125), Andy Huskey (140) and Mike Weber (171). All are sophomores except Weber, a senior who placed third at state last year and second as a sophomore.

The Granite City tournament marks the only time all year the three Garland brothers will coach in the same event. Mike Garland's brother Greg is the

head coach at Althoff and Steve Garland is the head coach at Belleville West. West is led by junior heavyweight B.J. Bertelsman, a returning state qualifier who is now 8-1 after winning the Mascoutah title. The Maroons, also paced by Doug Lopinot (160), finished fifth as a team at Mascoutah.

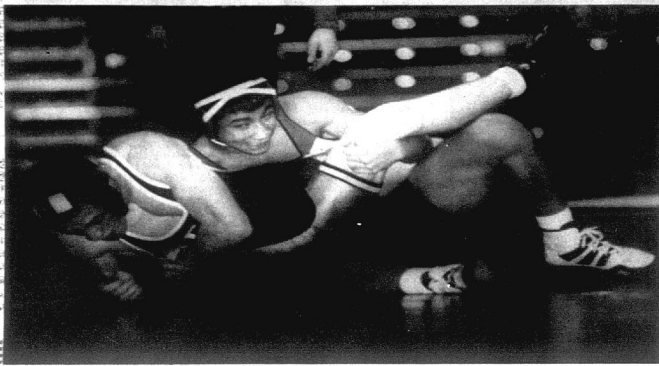
## Surge

(Continued from Page 18)

half? "We figured, hopefully, they weren't going to continue shooting that high percentage from the 3-point line," Van Buskirk said. "Obviously, that's what they were trying to beat us with, and they were doing it successfully in the first half. They made only seven two-point field goals the whole game. We just extended the defense a little more in the second half and we were able to force them to make some tougher shots."

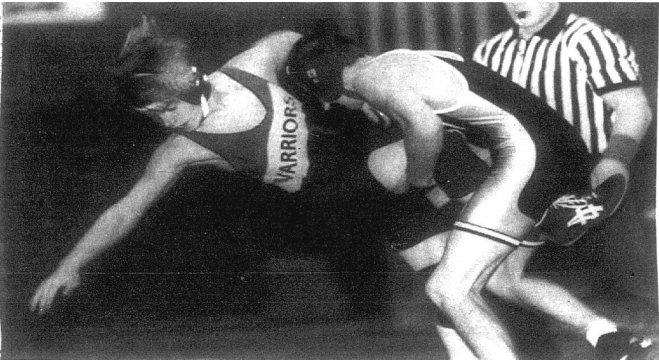
Van Buskirk has a taller lineup without Wallace, which includes 6-foot-5 senior Rob Turck now starting at center. Former center Jeff Hoising (6-5) has moved to small forward, while Ray Smith (6-4) has replaced Wallace at shooting guard.

Dustin Brewer (6-5, 210) remains at power forward, as has Kyle Briggs at his point guard position.

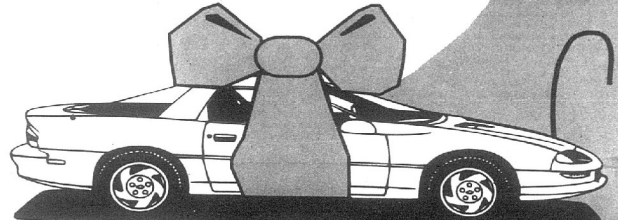


(Staff photos by T.L. WITT)

Above: Granite City's Brooks Narvez (top) battles Belleville West's Brian McHenry in a 135-pound match. Below: Granite City's Benny Lofink (left) is taken down by West's David Fix in a 119-pound match.



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 21 at Collinsville  
 26-28 Belleville  
 4 Edwardsville  
 10 Collinsville  
 14 East St. St.  
 18 Centralia  
 21-25 Belleville  
 31 Alton.....  
 1 ESL Line  
 7 at Alton...  
 11 O'Fallon...  
 14 at Edwards...  
 21 at Collinsville  
 22 Belleville  
 28 at East St.  
 BELLEVILLE  
 20 at Alton...  
 21 Belleville...  
 26-28 Centralia  
 4 at Granite...  
 10 at Edwards...  
 11 O'Fallon...  
 14 at Cahokia...  
 17 at Collinsville  
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 21-25 Belleville  
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## Prep basketball

### BELLEVILLE EAST LANCERS

December	
20 Granite City.....	7:45 p.m.
21 at Belleville West.....	8 p.m.
26-28 Collinsville Tournament, TBA	
January	
4 Edwardsville.....	7:45 p.m.
10 Collinsville.....	7:45 p.m.
14 East St. Louis.....	7:45 p.m.
18 Centralia Shootout.....	7:45 p.m.
22 Belleville E. Invitational/TBA	
31 Alton.....	7:45 p.m.

February	
1 ESL Lincoln.....	7:45 p.m.
7 at Granite City.....	7:45 p.m.
14 at Edwardsville.....	7:45 p.m.
21 at Collinsville.....	7:45 p.m.
28 at Belleville West.....	7:45 p.m.
28 at East St. Louis.....	7:45 p.m.

### BELLEVILLE WEST MAROONS

December	
20 at Edwardsville.....	6:15 p.m.
21 Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
26-28 Centralia Tournament, TBA	

January	
4 at Granite City.....	6:15 p.m.
10 at Edwardsville.....	6:15 p.m.
17 at Cahokia.....	6:15 p.m.
18 at Collinsville.....	6:15 p.m.
22 Belleville E. Invitational/TBA	
31 at ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.

February	
1 at East St. Louis.....	6:15 p.m.
7 at Granite City.....	6:15 p.m.
11 O'Fallon.....	6:15 p.m.
15 at Alton.....	6:15 p.m.
22 at Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
28 at Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.

### COLLINSVILLE KAHOKS

December	
20 ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.
26-28 Collinsville Tournament, TBA	
January	
4 Alton.....	6:15 p.m.
10 at Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
11 Beaumont.....	6:15 p.m.
18 Belleville West.....	6:15 p.m.
25 Hazelwood West.....	6:15 p.m.
31 East St. Louis.....	6:15 p.m.

February	
1 Edwardsville.....	6:15 p.m.
14 at ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.
15 Quincy.....	6:15 p.m.
21 Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
28 Granite City.....	6:15 p.m.
28 at Belleville West.....	6:15 p.m.

### EAST ST. LOUIS FLYERS

December	
20 Edwardsville.....	6:15 p.m.
26-28 Centralia Tournament, TBA	

January	
4 at ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.
10 Granite City.....	6:15 p.m.
11 Highland Shootout.....	6:15 p.m.
14 at Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
18 at Madison.....	6:15 p.m.
24 at Alton.....	6:15 p.m.
31 at Collinsville.....	6:15 p.m.

February	
1 Belleville West.....	6:15 p.m.
4 Gateway.....	6:15 p.m.
7 at Edwardsville.....	6:15 p.m.
11 at Yorkville.....	6:15 p.m.
14 ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.
21 at Granite City.....	6:15 p.m.
22 Alton.....	6:15 p.m.
28 Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.

### EDWARDSVILLE TIGERS

December	
20 at East St. Louis.....	6:15 p.m.
26 Charleston Tournament.....	TBA
January	
4 at Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
10 Belleville West.....	6:15 p.m.
17 at ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.
18 Alton.....	6:15 p.m.
22-25 Salem Invitational.....	TBA
31 Granite City.....	6:15 p.m.

February	
1 at Collinsville.....	6:15 p.m.
4 at Civic Memorial.....	6:15 p.m.
7 East St. Louis.....	6:15 p.m.
14 Highland.....	6:15 p.m.
14 Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
21 at Belleville West.....	6:15 p.m.
22 ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.
28 at Alton.....	6:15 p.m.

### GRANITE CITY WARRIORS

December	
20 at Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
21 Jerseyville.....	6:15 p.m.
26 Collinsville Tournament.....	TBA

January	
4 Belleville West.....	6:15 p.m.
10 at East St. Louis.....	6:15 p.m.
18 at Belleville West.....	6:15 p.m.
18 at ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.
22-25 Salem Invitational.....	TBA
31 at Edwardsville.....	6:15 p.m.

February	
1 at Alton.....	6:15 p.m.
7 Belleville East.....	6:15 p.m.
14 at Belleville West.....	6:15 p.m.
18 McCluer North.....	6:15 p.m.
21 East St. Louis.....	6:15 p.m.
22 at Collinsville.....	6:15 p.m.
28 ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.

### MADISON TROJANS

December	
20 Springfield Calvary.....	7:45 p.m.
21 at Brussels.....	7:30 p.m.
27-29 Collinsville Tournament, TBA	
January	
4 at Charleston.....	7:30 p.m.
11 McCluer.....	7:30 p.m.
17 at Pittsfield.....	8 p.m.
18 East St. Louis.....	7:30 p.m.
21-25 Nashville Invitational.....	TBA
28 Lebanon.....	7:30 p.m.

February	
1 Pinckneyville Shootout.....	8 p.m.
7 at Venice.....	7:30 p.m.
8 at Alton.....	7:30 p.m.
13 Lovejoy.....	7:30 p.m.
15 Greenville Shootout.....	5:30 p.m.
21 at Teutopolis.....	8 p.m.

### O'FALLON PANTHERS

December	
20 at Mt. Vernon.....	8:30 p.m.
26-28 Collinsville Tournament, TBA	

January	
3 at Cahokia.....	8 p.m.
4 St. Louis U. High.....	8 p.m.
10 at Carbondale.....	8:30 p.m.
11 at Belleville West.....	8 p.m.
21-25 Belleville E. Invitational/TBA	
31 Cahokia.....	8 p.m.

February	
7 at Marion.....	8:30 p.m.
14 at Mt. Vernon.....	8:30 p.m.
15 at Centralia.....	8:30 p.m.
22 Carbondale.....	8:30 p.m.
28 at Mascoutah.....	8 p.m.

### TRIAD KNIGHTS

December	
20 at Highland.....	6:15 p.m.

December	
21 at Mount Vernon.....	6:30 p.m.
26-28 Collinsville Tournament, TBA	
January	
3 Roxana.....	6:15 p.m.
10 at Roxana.....	6:15 p.m.
11 Jerseyville.....	6:15 p.m.
17 Mascoutah.....	6:15 p.m.
18 Civic Memorial.....	6:15 p.m.
21-25 Sparta Tournament.....	TBA
31 at Mascoutah.....	6:15 p.m.

February	
4 Greenville.....	6:15 p.m.
7 Wood River.....	6:15 p.m.
14 at Jerseyville.....	6:15 p.m.
21 at Civic Memorial.....	6:15 p.m.
22 Highland.....	6:15 p.m.
28 at Edwardsville.....	6:15 p.m.

### VENICE RED DEVILS

December	
26-30 Freeburg Tournament.....	TBA

January	
7 ESL Lincoln.....	6:15 p.m.
10 Gibault.....	6:15 p.m.
21-25 Sparta Tournament.....	TBA
26 Metro East Lutheran.....	8:15 p.m.
31 Columbia.....	6:15 p.m.

February	
1 at Sparta.....	6:30 p.m.
5 at Gateway.....	6:30 p.m.
7 Madison.....	6:15 p.m.
11 East St. Louis.....	6:15 p.m.
13 Normandy (Mo.).....	6:15 p.m.
15 Greenville Shootout.....	7 p.m.
18 at Beaumont (Mo.).....	7 p.m.

### Feb. 14-28: Regional Tournament

March 4-7: Sectional Tournament  
March 11: Super-Sectional  
March 14-15: State Tournament

## Journal Writers' Poll Boys Basketball

### LARGE SCHOOLS

1. DeSmet (5-1).....	59
2. CBC (4-2).....	54
3. Belleville East (3-1).....	46
4. Parkway Central (6-0).....	41
5. Vashon (4-1).....	39
6. Riverview Gardens (2-1).....	25
7. Hazelwood East (4-1).....	23
8. Edwardsville (2-0).....	18
9. Francis Howell (3-3).....	11
10. Lafayette (5-0).....	7

Also receiving votes: Parkway West (4-1), Mascoutah (3-0) and Fort Zumwalt South (4-2).

### SMALL SCHOOLS

1. John Burroughs (5-0).....	59
2. Gibault (3-0).....	46
3. South County Tech (6-0).....	41
4. Rosary (3-0).....	40
5. Madison (4-1).....	35
6. Freeburg (3-1).....	33
7. Columbia (3-1).....	31
8. Lutheran North (3-3).....	16
9. Lutheran South (4-2).....	15
10. Venice (2-1).....	8

Also receiving votes: St. Charles (4-2), Metro East Lutheran (5-1) and Bayless.

## Journal Writers' Poll Girls Basketball

### LARGE SCHOOLS

1. St. Joseph's (2-0).....	56
2. St. Joseph's (2-0).....	55
3. Nerinx Hall (NA).....	45
4. Lincoln (5-0).....	41
5. Pattonville (5-0).....	40
6. Francis Howell N. (4-1).....	25
7. Kirkwood (5-0).....	21
8. Belleville East (5-1).....	20
9. O'Fallon (6-0).....	8
10. Troy (5-0).....	7

Also receiving votes: Cor Jesu, Belleville West, Parkway South, Ft. Zumwalt North.

### SMALL SCHOOLS

1. Rosary (5-0).....	60
2. (tie) John Burroughs (NA).....	48
3. (tie) Wellston (4-0).....	40
4. Lutheran North (4-0).....	40
5. Principia (6-1).....	31
6. Columbia (7-1).....	26
7. Duchesne (3-1).....	25
8. Lutheran St. Charles (6-0).....	18
9. Windsor (5-0).....	10
10. (tie) Visitation (2-0).....	9
10. (tie) Red Bud (6-2).....	9

Also receiving votes: Villa Word, Althoff.



## THE LAW AND YOU

By RICK REED  
Attorney At Law

Sometimes when a person is charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, a question arises whether it is necessary to prove that he actually drove the vehicle. In some cases, an intoxicated person has been discovered asleep behind the steering wheel. In other instances, the defendant has been found unconscious in the driver's seat. Can a person be proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt if there is no evidence that he actually drove the vehicle?

Although the title of the offense is "driving under the influence of alcohol," the definition of the crime is somewhat broader. Illinois Appellate Courts have held that a defendant need not be shown to have been actually operating a moving vehicle in order to be guilty of the offense. In one recent Appellate case, the Court held that actual physical control of a vehicle requires only that one is behind the steering wheel with the ignition key and physically capable of starting the engine and moving the vehicle.

In another case, a driver was discovered asleep behind the steering wheel of his car with the motor running in a municipal parking lot. The officer charged the defendant with

driving under the influence of alcohol. The defendant did not dispute that he was intoxicated at the time of his arrest. Instead he maintained that he was not proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt because there was no evidence that he drove the vehicle. The defendant claimed that he parked in a parking lot at 9:00 p.m. and went to a nearby tavern where he stayed until midnight. He testified that the bartender agreed to give him a ride home and that he left the tavern to wait in his car while the bartender closed the tavern. He maintained that he did not move the car or have any intention of driving it. The trial court found that the defendant was in actual physical control of the vehicle at the time of his arrest and that he was guilty of the charge.

The Appellate Court felt there was ample evidence to establish that the defendant was in actual physical control of his vehicle. It was pointed out that he could have begun to drive his car at any moment since he was behind the wheel and the motor was running. Because of this, the Appellate Court upheld the conviction.

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<p><b>'97 Plymouth Breeze</b> STK# 8400 air conditioning, AM/FM cassette, dual air bags</p> <p><b>Your Cost \$13,298 SAVE! \$2,212</b></p>	<p><b>'97 Dodge Neon Coupe</b> STK# 5185 flame red, rear defrost, air conditioning, body side molding, dual remote mirror, floor mats &amp; more</p> <p><b>Your Cost \$10,275 SAVE! \$2,005</b></p>
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<p><b>'97 Dodge Dakota</b> STK# 9207 V-6 air conditioning sliding rear window, fog lamps, tilt wheel, aluminum wheels</p> <p><b>Your Cost \$14,291 SAVE! \$2,292</b></p>	<p><b>'97 Ram 1500 Club Cab 4x4</b> STK# 3395 <b>LOADED! LOADED! LOADED!</b></p> <p><b>Your Cost \$26,876 SAVE! \$2,400</b></p>

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## SPORTS



(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

Bryan Loftus (right) and the Granite City hockey team play host to St. Louis University High at 8:45 p.m. Saturday.

## Sports shorts

**Soccer registration**  
Open registration for the Granite City Soccer Club will be held every Tuesday and Thursday in January from 6 to 8 p.m. at the soccer complex concessions building, located at Illinois 3 and North Street. Registration is for boys and girls born 1983 through 1992. Children born in 1993 may register for the instructional fun soccer camp. If interested, call 876-9000.

**"RJ" Krause All-Stars**  
The "RJ" Krause All-Stars Sports Club of East St. Louis is seeking basketball games and tournaments for boys and girls teams in grades 3-10. The club also needs sports equipment, uniforms, cheerleading outfits, used basketball shoes, sports magazines, books, games or trading cards. For more information, call Krause at 398-1201.

**Winter baseball camps**  
PCA Sports Camps and Belleville Area College coach Neil Pata will hold winter hitting and pitching camps at the BAC campus, 2500 Carlyle Road. Sessions are available at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Dec. 26-28 and 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 5-7. Hitting camps are \$6 per session and pitching camps are \$45. For a registration sheet, call 235-2700, extension 371 during the day or (314) 487-2768 in the evening.

**All-star tryouts**  
The St. Louis International Youth Baseball Association will select an all-star team to play baseball in Australia in March 1997. The team is open to boys born March 30, 1985, or later. For more information, call Al Bond at (314) 845-3032.

**Globetrotters tour**  
The Harlem Globetrotters are kicking off their 1997 tour of basketball arenas around the country with a game Jan. 3 at the Kiel Center.

"Sweet" Lou Dunbar, the self-styled "clown prince of basketball," was in St. Louis over the weekend making a variety of personal appearances to promote the 1997 tour.

Tickets for the Jan. 3 game, priced from \$25 to \$8.50, are available through the Kiel Center Box Office and at all Capital Tickets locations, or by calling Dialtix at (314) 968-1800.

Special 70th Anniversary commemorative seats are also available, and a \$2 discount is available for seniors age 55 and over and children age 12 and under. Discounts of 50% or more are also available for groups of 20 or more by calling the Kiel Center Group Sales Department at (314) 622-5454. Complete event information is also available by calling (314) 622-KIEL.

## •Talent—

(Continued from Page 1B)  
Will the tournament this year live up to those standards? "I think there is some kids in the same class of the ones that were mentioned earlier," Bone said. "You just never know what is going to happen."

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## •Warriors

(Continued from Page 1B)  
a 55-33 domination in scoring chances, easily their season high for most shots in a game. Senior winger Chris Hatfield set up Guffey's winning goal, giving him two assists for the night.

The only thing that was keeping (Lafayette) in the game was their goalie," Hodge said. "We had 19 shots in the third period, so we knew it was just a matter of time. Now if we don't make that late comeback, it could have been demoralizing."

The Warriors' three previous losses were on Dec. 2 to Hazelwood Central (3-2 score), on Dec. 9 to CBC (10-3) and on Dec. 16 to Marquette (6-3)—all winnable games, Hodge said.

"CBC is probably the premier team in Mid-States hockey," Hodge said. "We were right there with them (trailing

5-3) for two periods, but they kind of overwhelmed us in the third period with five more goals. Depth was a factor there, because (senior defenseman) Brian Johnson missed the last two periods of that game. He took a stick to the solar plexus and missed the next game against Marquette. He was out of practice for more than a week until (last) Thursday."

Burns, meanwhile, has played in only the last four games after missing the first eight with a knee injury. He already has three goals and four points. Guffey continues to be the top offensive threat for GCHS, raising his season totals to 12 goals, seven assists and 19 points. The No. 1 centerman's season highlight remains his four-goal performance on Nov. 30 in a 12-2 decision over Whitfield, the Warriors' last win before the

losing streak.

"Mikal Guffey has really picked his game up the last two weeks," Hodge said. "He's our senior captain and a true team leader. He's the guy you would expect to win the big game for you with the (clinching) goal. He's been doing it all year."

GCHS goalie Tony Evans also has been solid all season, playing all 45 minutes in each of the last three games. Senior winger Dave Miskelley and freshman defenseman Bobby Meszaros had the other two primary assists against Lafayette. Johnson and freshman winger Dustin Wesley also tallied one assist each.

Pritchard, the top playmaking center, continues to lead the Warriors by far in total assists. He and fellow junior forward Vince Whittenburg also helped out on defense while Johnson was injured.

## •Hockey

(Continued from Page 1B)  
are rugged junior Garth Whittman (6-1, 190), an enforcing checker, and aggressive freshman Billy Cahill. The others are junior Scott Sarich and sophomores Clayton Warren and Robyn Slater. Slater more than holds her own as a second-year JV player and the only female in the GCHS hockey program.

Robyn's a steady defensive player," Brown said. "She doesn't have the speed and everything, but she's a real heady player. She knows when to take the body and when to take the puck. But she hits better than most of them, let me tell you. I had another girl play last year, too. They have the resolve to compete with the guys."

The Warriors are loaded with talent on the forward lines. All four JV "swing" players who also get regular

varsity shifts are attackers.

The top line usually consists of freshmen Ty Suhre (center), Vince Whittenburg (left wing) and David Svezia (right wing), all varsity regulars. Whittenburg and Svezia also add backline skill as occasional defensemen on both levels.

"Vince is my leader and the team captain," Brown said. "He's the utility man, because he can play any position. He's one of our top scorers, although the points on this year's team is more even and widespread than it was last year."

The fourth varsity swingman is freshman Dustin Wesley, who usually centers the second JV line. His typical wingers are freshmen John Storbahl on the left and Billy Fieor on the right. Storbahl leads the JV in goal scoring.

"Those are the six guys I would consider as my starting

forwards," Brown said. "I rotate them around in terms of who starts on game day. My other forwards get time on the third and fourth lines, which we use to rest up the top six guys. That's a deep bench to have four lines on this level."

Sophomore Ryan Evans often centers the third line, flanked by sophomores Greg Boyer and Tim Knowlton. Frequent fourth-line players are freshman center Kyle Hensley and wingers Matt Blaylock (junior) and Matt Salzman (freshman). Salzman also can play defense.

Junior Mark Moseley and freshman Jason Eaton also get substantial playing time at forward. Sophomore utility man Jared Brown will add more depth when his improved classroom grades allow him to rejoin the team on Jan. 1.

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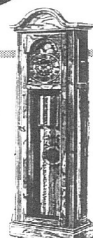
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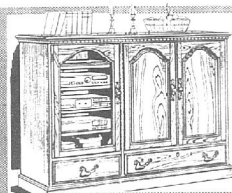
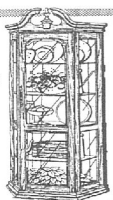
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### 3 receive scholarship award

Granite City residents Gregory Darnell, Joanna Groboski and Brian Seiz all received the Stephen D. Burdige scholarship award at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy's annual fall awards program. All three are students at the college.

The award was sponsored by Stephen D. Burdige, owner of the Medicine Shoppe in Granite City. Only students who are residents of Granite City were eligible to be considered for the award.

The College also awarded a Stephen D. Burdige '71 Medicine Shoppe Scholarship to David Walker of Shelby, Mo.

The \$2,000 award, sponsored by Medicine Shoppe International, was provided to the college in recognition of Burdige's success as a Medicine Shoppe franchisee.

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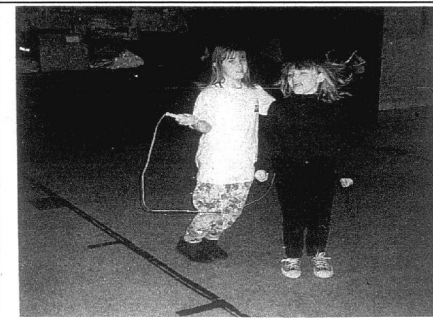
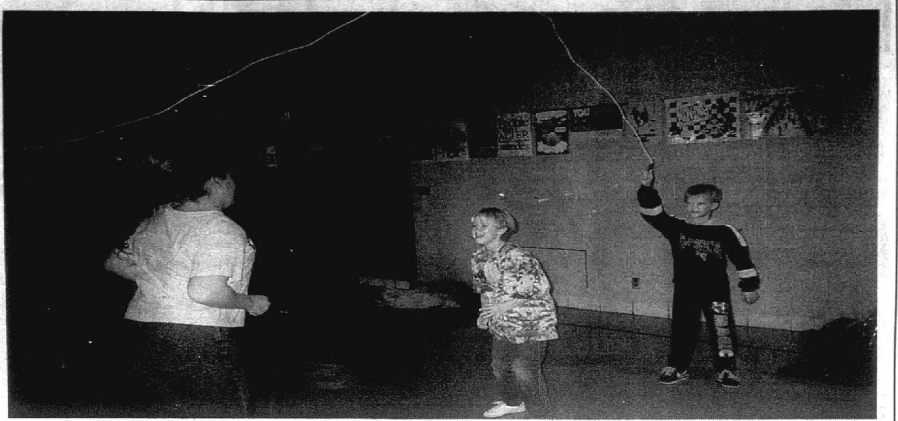
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**Jump for heart** — Students at Marshall School in Granite City jumped at the chance to fight heart disease and promote physical fitness at the annual Jump Rope for Heart Day.

The nationwide event, sponsored by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Recreation and Dance, is designed to show the benefits of regular exercise and physical fitness while raising money for the American Heart Association's research and education programs. Above, Rachel Lopez, Jennifer Nicholson and Josh Nicholson jump rope. At left are Karen Smart and Nicole Sorenson; at right is Stephanie Sutton.



### GED class to be offered at GCC

Belleville Area College is offering a free General Educational Development class beginning in January at the Granite City Campus, 4950 Maryville Road.

A morning class will meet from 9 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. weekdays, beginning Jan. 13 through Feb. 7.

Registration for the class will take place at 9 a.m. Jan. 13 in the Granite City campus cafeteria.

An evening class will meet from 6:30 to 9:20 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays from Jan. 9 through March 6. Registration will be at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 9, also in the cafeteria.

GED classes prepare area residents who have not received a high school diploma to take a test to receive a high school equivalency certificate.

For more information, those interested may call BAC at 235-2700, extension 523 or toll-free in Illinois at 1-800-BAC-5131, extension 523.

### Marriage licenses

The following marriage licenses were recently issued from the office of Debbie Salich, Madison County clerk:

Bruce E. Adams, Glen Carbon, and Michelle L. Hardin, Troy

Ronnie J. Bone, Hazelwood, Mo., and Nancy G. Hoffman, Edwardsville

Elvis A. Chandler and Wanda L. Kenick, both of Granite City

Max T. Clark, Maryville, and Jennifer L. Miller, Edwardsville

James L. Deem and Lynn M. Deem, both of Edwardsville

Caleb W. Dickerson and Cheryl L. McBride, both of Edwardsville

Donald A. Doyle, Edwardsville, and Marcella L. Eastep, Granite City

Larry D. Fleming, Edwardsville, and Kathleen M. Wagoner, Glen Carbon

Walter E. Ford Jr. and Sherri L. Dobler, both of Granite City

Dennis G. Hamby Jr. and Melody A. Kerckhoff, both of Troy

Charles E. Holliday III, Maryville, and Ann M. Miskell, Granite City

Robert J. Hudak and Patricia J. Fyalka, both of Collinsville

Jason C. Kass and Mary C. Weinhoff, both of Granite City

Albert E. Kayser, Collinsville, and Lavon B. Pannier, Pocahtontas

Sangmin Lee and Jui Han, both of Granite City

Daniel P. Lemp and Nicole C. Neminger, both of Granite City

Cecil E. Long, Belleville, and Elizabeth A. Gross, Granite City

Johnny F. Miller, Granite City, and Beverly E. Clark, Alhambra

Eric W. Mitchell and Theresa L. Schuler, both of Granite City

Kevin M. Morrison, Aurora, Colo., and Athena M. Harris, Granite City

Joseph T. Napoli and Kelly J. Powell, both of Troy

Mark E. Olson and Patricia S. Eader, both of Belleville

James S. Powell II and Kristeen N. Schumacher, both of Edwardsville

Warren M. Prihod, Quincy, and Christine M. Weber, Collinsville

Robert B. Ribbing, Naperville, Ill., and Jenine M. Trower, Granite City

Glenn K. Robinson and Michelle E. Trower, both of Glen Carbon

William J. Robinson and Rona J. Richardson, Fairmont Park

Ricard D. Shield and Nancy L. Young, Granite City

William P. Smith Jr. and Christine R. Huff, both of Edwardsville

Michael J. Stout, Cooperas Cove, Texas, and Judith A. Culp, Collinsville

Gabriel S. Tomlin, Granite City, and Denise S. Taylor, Madison

Brandon D. Vandever, Cahokia, and Mary Ann Vandever, East Alton

Kipp F. W. Wallace and Tammy L. Littlejohn, both of Granite City

Joel A. Werth, Edwardsville, and Lourdes Tassan Sulvira, Matag, Ob.

Stephen A. Witham, Maryland Heights, Mo., and Rebecca L. Gratton, Venice

Clarence K. Woolfolk and Nancy M. Koessel, both of Glen Carbon

Peter Young, Caseyville, and Carol J. Welton, Granite City

Randall W. Basden and Darla J. Laswell, both of Granite City

William J. Clayton Jr. and Ramona A. Smriga, both of Edwardsville

Richard B. Cook and Mandy J. Key, both of Troy

Bradley S. Coy, Kansas City, Mo., and Callie J. Hunt, Granite City

William T. Daniels Jr. and Lisa R. Fernandez, both of Granite City

Scott C. Foote Sr. and Tracy A. Puhl, both of Glen Carbon

Carl T. Gamble and Renoda A. Crews, both of Edwardsville

Stanley J. Green, Venice, and Geraldine Hoskins, East St. Louis

Matthew A. Heiman and Joyce D. Anderkin, both of Granite City

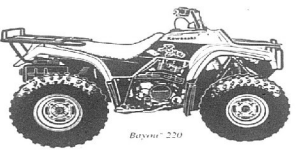
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# ENTERTAINMENT

## It's not too early to plan New Year's celebration

By Alene Hill  
Correspondent

For some, the most important part of a New Year's Eve celebration may be an elaborate dinner, while others prefer dancing, or a combination of food and merriment.

Regardless, local options are as varied as people looking for something to do.

It's not too early to make plans. Some of the local establishments report tickets are going fast and at least one, the Collinsville Knights of Columbus, has reportedly sold out.

American Legion Post 365 at 1022 Vandalia in Collinsville is offering an evening of entertainment beginning with hors d'oeuvres at 7 p.m. Buffet dinner will begin at 8 a.m. Dancing to "No Respect" begins at 9 p.m. and will last until 1 a.m. Price of tickets is \$34 a person.

Eagle Lodge No. 1061, 940 California, features a New Year's Eve dance with music from "Crossfire," from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m. The cost is \$15 per person and includes beer, set-ups and snacks. Tickets are available at the Lodge and can be purchased anytime up to



Some area establishments are reporting shortages of tickets already.

New Year's Eve. The VFW at 1234 Vandalia has scheduled a dinner and dance featuring music by the "Alley Cats." The cost is \$17.50 per person and includes beer, set ups and buffet. The

celebration begins at 8 p.m. and goes until 1 a.m. Michael's in Highland features a New Year's Eve Party with dinner and dancing to the Big Band sound of Buddy and Perri Mareno and

free champagne at midnight. Call 664-8846 for reservations. Porter's at Holiday Inn of Collinsville will serve from a special dinner menu that includes many of the most popular entrees and also offer

several dinner and hotel packages. Call 345-2800 for information. Art Vieluf's Comedy Etc. offers two shows at 7:30 and 10 p.m. The Comedy Package includes two tickets for the

show, snacks and a champagne toast and party favors. The cost is \$39.95 per couple and reservations can be booked by calling 628-4242. Excalibur Night Club at 1803 Ramada Boulevard will hold the New Year's Eve Dance Mix beginning at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 per person in advance or \$15 at the door and will include dancing, food and champagne at midnight. The festivities will last until 2 a.m. Tickets can be purchased ahead at the club and will be limited to 500.

Tickets are available at Wild Country for two different party packages. One option includes buffet dinner, personal bottle of champagne, party hats and noisemakers for \$20 per person. The other package does not include dinner and costs \$12 per person. Live music will be provided.

Advance tickets are available from waiters and waitresses at Wild Country. The party begins at 7 p.m. and goes until 3 a.m.

Dave's Cappuccino will have an alcohol free New Year's celebration with live music provided by Dave and friends. The cost is a \$1 cover charge and Dave's will be open at least until 1 a.m.

## Horoscope

Thursday, Dec. 26  
Emotions are running high today as the mood-driven moon is in the active air sign Libra. This position of the moon accentuates our sense of fairness and justice. Dignity will be present in our communications with others, and discussions are sure to be lively. Venus is in warm, lighthearted Sagittarius, allowing us to be involved in topics but not attached to them.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If a weekend trip is canceled, relax. What happens instead will be more conducive to romance. If you feel you're being used by a child or family member, speak frankly. The evening feels luxurious. Your family supports you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Journal-writing produces discoveries. Compare the actual costs with your earlier estimates. If a job you wanted doesn't pan out, it was because a better fate awaits you. Stick to the bottom line in family fun.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Money that comes through a simple action eases your financial tension. Your encounters with the rich and famous should be noted in a diary. Do what you can for an elder; soon, you'll understand why your aid was important.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You won't regret spending money on yourself or a sweetheart. Family members are in rare form, which means entertainment for all. Celebrate the recovery of a relative who has been ill. A

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dream may recall past events.

LEO (June 23-Aug. 23). You have a way of endearing people who are trying to hold a grudge. Pay close attention to instructions to prevent an embarrassing error. Join friends for team sports or jaunts to new restaurants or shops, but don't spend much.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 26). You are all heart, which is why your wishes are difficult to resist. Make your will known to all. Next month brings a renewed outlook. Singles fall in love at the end of January. Married couples feel strongly about expanding the family. Career success in March is huge. The best signs for partnerships are Libra and Virgo. A windfall in June allows for a vacation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Get going on your own agenda instead of waiting for the world to catch up. If you are having a party, you're a famous success. Money management is the theme. A practical mate should be heeded.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

An inheritance or other bonus to your income really may seem to come from nowhere. Tonight, enjoy intimate time with the one you love. Your mate has another surprise for you, so be flexible. In-laws are certainly in picture.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Let loose at events, especially those involving family. Let your partner or good friend take the lead and you'll have best time you've had in years. Build, repair and lay a good foundation for your home or personal life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You take every precaution to guard your heart, but someone steals it anyhow. Somehow, you're being asked to be the keeper of the flame. Life guides you in the right direction to what seems to be miracles.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are choosy about love, but so many people are interested in you now that you can be. Confrontations are avoidable if you remember your long-range objectives. Put fun back into your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Open yourself to financial luck by being generous. Unusual methods and approaches do the trick. You have strong attractions to off-beat subjects. There is power in sticking to a plan. Your perceptions of others are accurate.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When you're feeling healthy, you look happier and sexier. It pays to read, perhaps literally. There's no reason not to speak the truth if you do it in a loving way.

## Numbers important to athletes, fans

By Kevin Carbery  
Staff writer

To this day, if I'm on a sports team and I'm always choose No. 23 for my uniform.

My reason for this is, when I was growing up, my idol was St. Louis Cardinals catcher Ted Simmons. Simmons was a terrific hitter and, as I also was a catcher, he was living the life I wanted to have. He was the star backstop on the Cardinals.

Player numbers are important to many people who love sports. Pass by any sandlot field and you'll likely see all kinds of kids running around in shirts with the No. 1 on them - obviously in honor of their hero, Ozzie Smith. You also see many youngsters playing roller hockey and wearing No. 16, which happens to be what Brett Hull has on his uniform.

While Simmons was my main hero, he was not the only local athlete who had an influence on me. When I played football for Mehlville High School in the late '70s, I chose the No. 66. The reason was that lineman Conrad Dobler of the football Cards wore that number. He had the reputation of being the dirtiest player in the National Football League. I didn't necessarily want to be just like him, but I wanted to display the same kind of intensity he did.

Another significant uniform number to St. Louis youngsters in the '70s was No. 3. That was Bob Gassoff's number with the Blues. Gassoff was one of the toughest players and best fighters in the NHL. Sadly, he died young in a motorcycle accident.

In basketball, the local star in those years was Marvin

Barnes of the Spirits. I remember that he wore No. 24. I assume he inspired many kids to do the same. The Spirits were not around for many years, but it was fun to see them play at the Arena.

These days, with sports merchandise having become big business, it's even more common to see youngsters wearing replica jerseys of their favorite players.

This week's trivia covers sports uniform numbers. I realize some of these players may have worn more than one number during their careers. I'm asking about the main number associated with each player.

1. Why does hockey player Petr Klima wear No. 85?  
2. Why did Babe Ruth wear No. 3?

3. What number did Eddie Gaedel wear? He was the midget hired by St. Louis Browns owner Bill Veeck to play in a game in the early '50s.

4. Who was the last St. Louis Blue to wear No. 16 before Brett Hull joined the team?

5. What is Miami Dolphin Dan Marino's uniform number?

6. Chicago Bear linebacker Dick Butkus wore what number?

7. Oakland Raider center Jim Otto wore what number?

8. Hockey greats Gordie Howe, Maurice Richard and Bobby Hull all wore what number?

9. Which four numbers have been retired by the St. Louis Blues?

10. Soccer great Pele wore what number?  
ANSWERS: 1. To commemorate the year 1965, when he defected from Czechoslovakia. 2. It was from the New York

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